

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a tubular drive shaft, ~~in particular a cardan shaft for a motor vehicle; comprising a first section with a first diameter-D diameter and a second section with a second diameter-d diameter, said second diameter-d diameter being smaller than said first diameter-D diameter, and a transition section in which a diameter diameter of said drive shaft diminishes from (D) to (d) said first diameter to said second diameter, and which is provided with an annular bead which coaxially surrounds a longitudinal axis of said drive shaft, and in the process of which method a tube with said first diameter-D diameter is reshaped and reduced in diameter diameter to form said second section and said transition section,~~
~~characterized in that said bead is formed during, after, or during a break in said reshaping process that results in the production of said second section with said second diameter-d diameter.~~
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that said tube is reshaped by at least one of rotary swaging or drawing.
3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said bead is formed at an outer surface of said transition section.
4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said bead is formed at an inner surface of said transition section.
5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in, that a first bead is formed at an outer surface and a second bead is formed at an inner surface of said transition portion.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in, that said bead is formed such that it extends along a whole circumference of said transition portion without interruption.
7. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims 1 to 6~~, characterized in that said bead is formed, such that it extends along a circumference of said transition section with interruptions.
8. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that said bead is formed by a chip-removing technique, in particular by turning.
9. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims 1 to 7~~, characterized in that said bead is formed by a chipless technique.
10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, characterized in that said bead is rolled into said transition portion.
11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, characterized in that said bead is pressed into said transition portion.
12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, characterized in that said bead is formed by rotary swaging.
13. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ Claim 1, characterized in that said bead has a depth of ~~0,15~~ 0,15 mm to ~~0,3~~ 0,3 mm.
14. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim

1, characterized in that a force, which acts upon said transition portion while forming said bead has a component parallel to a longitudinal axis of said drive shaft.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, characterized in that said component of said force which is parallel to said axis is larger than a radial component of said force.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 14, characterized in that said force acts only parallelly to said axis.

17. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that while forming said bead into said transition section, in particular while forming said bead by pressing, occurring forces are accommodated by a counter bearing, which is temporarily put to said transition portion at its face opposite to said bead.

18. (Currently amended) A tubular drive shaft, in particular a cardan shaft for a motor vehicle, comprising a first section with a first diameter ~~D~~ diameter and a second section with a second diameter ~~d~~ diameter, said second diameter ~~d~~ diameter being smaller than said first diameter ~~D~~ diameter, ~~in addition to~~ and a transition section in which a diameter diameter of said drive shaft diminishes from ~~(D)~~ to ~~(d)~~ said first diameter to said second diameter and which is provided with an annular bead coaxially surrounding a longitudinal axis of said drive shaft, which is produced by a method according to any one of the previous claims.

19. (New) The method according to claim 1, characterized in that said tubular drive shaft is a cardan shaft for a motor vehicle.

20. (New) The tubular drive shaft according to claim 18, characterized in that said

tubular drive shaft is a cardan shaft for a motor vehicle.